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the temperature has been moderate, seldom above 90° F., with cool nights and a breeze most of the days.

The health authorities of the port have shown a disposition to keep the place free from quarantinable diseases by adopting quarantine regulations and rigorous execution of the same. They very kindly accept and act upon suggestions from me and so far we have worked in perfect harmony.

Respectfully,

D. W. GOODMAN,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

PORTO RICO.

Report from Ponce.

PONCE, P. R., *September 24, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the quarantine and abstract bills of health reports for the week ended September 22, 1900. The usual biweekly mortality report has not been received in time for this week's report. However, I know privately that the number for the present month will fall considerably below that of the past month, being influenced, possibly, by a diminution of material.

The Spanish steamship *Cataluña*, from Havana, Colon, Port Limon, Sabanilla, Puerto Cabello, and La Guayra, touched at this port on the 17th instant. She was held in quarantine. Only the captain and purser, immunes, were allowed on shore to transact business. The vessel brought no passengers nor freight for this port, and left after a few hours' stay.

Respectfully,

W. W. KING,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Mortality reports of Porto Rico.

SAN JUAN, P. R., *October 1, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith consolidated mortality reports of Porto Rico for the months of May and August. I have already transmitted reports for June and July. These reports are issued regularly now by the superior board of health of Porto Rico. The first issued was for the month of June, as stated in my letter of transmittal.

A comparison of these reports show a steady increase in the death rate of the island, as follows:

Month.	Deaths.	Death rate. (a)
May	3, 208	43.5
June	3, 712	46.7
July	4, 690	58.9
August	4, 733	(?) 58.4

a Annual death rate per 1,000 inhabitants.

There are, however, no quarantinable diseases reported. In my letter of the 15th ultimo I spoke of the increased and increasing death rate of Porto Rico and gave my opinion as to the probable causes of this